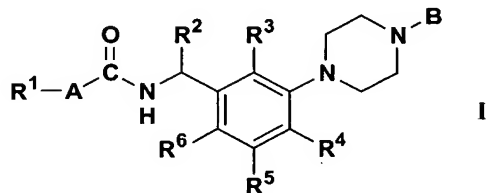


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula I or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



5

wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl,  
C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent  
independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl,  
10 C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy;

A is -CH=CH- or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>;

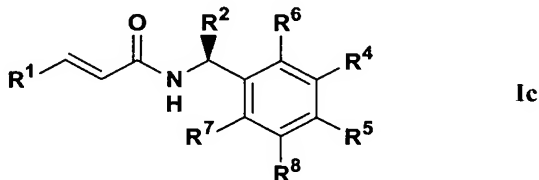
R<sup>2</sup> is C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub> or hydroxymethyl;

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

n is an integer of 1 or 2; and

15 B is 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl or 4-pyridinyl.

2. The compound of claim 1 having the Formula Ib or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof



20 wherein

R<sup>1</sup> is selected from the group consisting of pyridinyl, 3-quinolinyl, 2-thienyl,  
C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl and phenyl optionally substituted with substituent  
independently selected from the group consisting of halogen, C<sub>1-4</sub> alkyl,  
C<sub>1-4</sub> alkoxy, trifluoromethyl and trifluoromethoxy;

25 A is -CH=CH- or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>;

R<sup>2</sup> is methyl or hydroxymethyl;

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> each are independently hydrogen or fluoro;

n is an integer of 1 or 2; and

B is 2-pyridinyl, 3-pyridinyl or 4-pyridinyl.

- 5     3.     The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:  
          (*S*)-3-phenyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(2-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-  
          acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(3-fluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-  
10    acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(2,3-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acrylamide;  
15    (*S*)-3-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
20    ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(3,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acrylamide;  
          (*S*)-3-(2,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-propionamide;  
25    (*S*)-3-(3,4-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-propionamide;  
          (*S*)-2-(2,5-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
          ethyl}-acetamide;  
          (*S*)-2-(2,6-difluoro-phenyl)-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-  
30    ethyl}-acetamide;  
          (*S*)-2-cyclopentyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-  
          acetamide; and

(*S*)-2-cyclohexyl-N-{1-[3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-piperazin-1-yl)-phenyl]-ethyl}-acetamide;  
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

- 5     4.     A pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of KCNQ potassium channels comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, adjuvant or diluent.
- 10    5.     A method for the treatment of disorders responsive to opening of the KCNQ potassium channels in a mammal in need thereof, which comprises administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
- 15    6.     The method of claim 5 wherein said disorders are acute and chronic pain, migraine, neuropathic pain, bipolar disorders, convulsions, mania, epilepsy, anxiety, depression and neurodegenerative disorders.
7.     The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is migraine.
- 20    8.     The method of claim 6 wherein said disorder is neuropathic pain.